# **Environmental Protection Agency**

of increased water flow through the repository as a result of climate change, and the resulting transport and release of radionuclides to the accessible environment. The nature and degree of climate change may be represented by constant climate conditions. The analysis may commence at 10,000 years after disposal and shall extend through the period of geologic stability. The NRC shall specify in regulation the values to be used to represent climate change, such as temperature, precipitation, or infiltration rate of water.

(3) The DOE must assess the effects of general corrosion on engineered barriers. The DOE may use a constant representative corrosion rate throughout the period of geologic stability or a distribution of corrosion rates correlated to other repository parameters.

[73 FR 61288, Oct. 15, 2008]

#### § 197.37 Can EPA amend this rule?

Yes. We can amend this rule by conducting another notice-and-comment rulemaking. Such a rulemaking must include a public comment period. Also, we may hold one or more public hearings, if we receive a written request to do so.

### § 197.38 Are the Individual Protection and Ground Water Protection Standards Severable?

Yes. The individual protection and ground water protection standards are severable.

APPENDIX A TO PART 197—CALCULATION OF ANNUAL COMMITTED EFFECTIVE DOSE EQUIVALENT

Unless otherwise directed by NRC, DOE shall use the radiation weighting factors and tissue weighting factors in this Appendix to calculate the internal component of the annual committed effective dose equivalent for compliance with §§ 197.20 and 197.25 of this part. NRC may allow DOE to use updated factors issued after the effective date of this regulation. Any such factors shall have been issued by consensus scientific organizations and incorporated by EPA into Federal radiation guidance in order to be considered generally accepted and eligible for this use. Further, they must be compatible with the effective dose equivalent dose calculation methodology established in ICRP 26 and 30, and continued in ICRP 60 and 72, and incorporated in this appendix.

#### I. EQUIVALENT DOSE

The calculation of the committed effective dose equivalent (CEDE) begins with the determination of the equivalent dose,  $H_T$ , to a tissue or organ, T, listed in Table A.2 below by using the equation:

$$\underline{\mathbf{H}}_{\mathrm{T}} = \sum_{\mathbf{R}} \underline{\mathbf{D}}_{\mathrm{T},\mathbf{R}} \cdot \underline{\mathbf{w}}_{\mathbf{R}}$$

where  $D_{T,R}$  is the absorbed dose in rads (one gray, an SI unit, equals 100 rads) averaged over the tissue or organ, T, due to radiation type, R, and  $w_R$  is the radiation weighting factor which is given in Table A.1 below. The unit of equivalent dose is the rem (sievert, in SI units).

Table A.1—Radiation weighting factors,  $W_R^{\ 1}$ 

Radiation type and energy range <sup>2</sup>	w <sub>R</sub> value
Photons, all energies	1
Electrons and muons, all energies	1
Neutrons, energy	
< 10 keV	5
10 keV to 100 keV	10
> 100 keV to 2 MeV	20
>2 MeV to 20 MeV	10
> 20 MeV	5
Protons, other than recoil protons, > 2 MeV	5
Alpha particles, fission fragments, heavy nuclei	20

<sup>1</sup> All values relate to the radiation incident on the body or, for internal sources, emitted from the source.
<sup>2</sup> See paragraph A14 in ICRP Publication 60 for the choice of values for other radiation types and energies not in the

## II. EFFECTIVE DOSE EQUIVALENT

The next step is the calculation of the effective dose equivalent, E. The probability of occurrence of a stochastic effect in a tissue or organ is assumed to be proportional to the equivalent dose in the tissue or organ. The constant of proportionality differs for the various tissues of the body, but in assessing health detriment the total risk is required. This is taken into account using the tissue weighting factors, w<sub>T</sub> in Table A.2, which represent the proportion of the stochastic risk resulting from irradiation of the tissue or organ to the total risk when the whole body is irradiated uniformly and H<sub>T</sub> is the equivalent dose in the tissue or organ, T, in the equation:

$$\mathbf{E} = \sum \underline{\mathbf{w}}_{\mathrm{T}} \cdot \underline{\mathbf{H}}_{\mathrm{T}}.$$

TABLE A.2—TISSUE WEIGHTING FACTORS, W<sub>T</sub>

Tissue or organ	w <sub>T</sub> value
Gonads	0.20 0.12
Colon	0.12
Lung	0.12
Stomach	0.12